

10/4

ICSB NEWSLETTER

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Photographer: Hatungimana Didier

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

THOSE THAT HAVE PASSED...

JoAnne Lessley: Kenny Lessley, and the Uter and Wingo families mourn the passing of JoAnne Lessley in August. JoAnne was a member of the Immaculate Conception choir and was known for her sewing and crafting skills.

Christopher Rutherford: Millard and Grace Rutherford and family mourn the loss of their son, Christopher, on September 4, 2020. The Rutherfords were long-time ICSB parishioners until they moved to Atlanta, Georgia.

Nadèle Pierre-Philippe: The passing of Sosthenes Pierre-Philippe's mother, Nadèle, who was 102 years old.

Henry Bell Sr.: Julian Bell and his family mourn the death of his beloved grandfather Henry Bell Sr. who died September 18th at the age of 90.

PEACE AND PROSPERITY

The new police chief of Rochester, Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan, that God will bless her with the knowledge, wisdom, strength, and heart to be a servant to his children in her new position.

Racial justice in our city and our world.

Those who are suffering financially, physically, emotionally, during this pandemic.

WELCOME HEALING

"Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven." ~ James 5:14-15

BE STRONG

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

WORD FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

WORD FROM PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

by Chib Onwunaka

The Parish Council has been diligently working to establish a vision for this year and carry it out accordingly. We want to establish more of a presence within our community to ensure that we are practicing our faith as a Christian body. A few of the items on our agenda are listed below:

- Establish a relationship between local churches such as St. Monica's, Mt. Olivet, and Memorial AME Church
- Establish a stronger relationship with Bishop Matano and invite him to the church more often to interact with the body.
- Support organizations that best align with our values as they seek to address issues of racial and economic injustice in our city.
- Establish times of prayer where the church will be open for prayer for our community, country, world, and anything that is near and dear to our heart.
- Establish strong online programming to keep our church family connected.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voice Your Choice

It is important to exercise your right to choose who you want to represent you in government. For those that are eligible to vote, please register to vote and prepare to vote how you choose; whether it's mail in ballot or in person:

- Go to <https://www.ny.gov/services/register-vote>
- What you need:
 - State issued ID
 - Social Security Number
 - Current address registered with the DMV

THE NEWLYWEDS



THE NEWLY WEDS CONTD



Both hailing from their homeland of Burundi, Anuarite and Jean met in a Tanzanian Refugee Camp and made their way to the United States. After a three year engagement, on September 26, 2020, Anuarite Hica and Jean Manirampa celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony. Jean, a truck driver, and Anuarite, an office assistant, are the latest couple to get married at Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's. Anuarite and Jean attend church regularly, and she is a former youth choir member and Liturgical Dancer.

Anuarite says that she fell in love with Jean because of his patience, kindness, and that he treats her with respect. They enjoy spending time together listening to music, singing and watching movies. Jean says that his first impression of Anuarite was, WOW! I love to hear her sing and she is a praying woman. I love how she carries herself, how she loves to cook and her love of family. I had asked God to send me a God fearing woman, and he sent me Anuarite. I am happy! We pray that Anurite and Jean enjoy a fruitful, joy-filled, and blessed marriage. Please pray for them and their family in this momentous occasion.

"We love because He first loved us" 1 John 4:19

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF COVID-19

As we have seen time and time again in this Covid-19 pandemic, many of our ordinary or traditional activities have to be looked at through a new lens. Often that view indicates that there will be challenges in trying to get the “normal” outcomes-but this reality also reveals some new opportunities as well. Here at ICSB, our religious education program has been a stable and critical ministry to educate our youth into our Catholic Faith. This program prepares our youth for their Sacraments and helps students grow deeper in knowledge and faith in Jesus Christ. We desire to help them have a personal relationship with Christ.

Traditionally, our Religious Ed. Program has been taught face to face. As any teacher can tell you, very often, a teacher can get more knowledge about if students are being engaged and their level of understanding by their facial expressions. COVID restrictions, however, not only may prohibit face-to-face encounters, but even if we could meet face to face, with masks, a big part of the facial expression is being obscured. This is certainly a challenge. Ah, but an opportunity emerges! With the technology that has become so popular today, we can use Zoom or some such program that will allow our teachers to reach out to students in the comfort of their homes, and they won't need masks. Also, another opportunity-maybe we don't have to have Sunday School after mass so that parents no longer need to stick around to take their children home.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF COVID-19



Another challenge that exists here at ICSB is that we have a small Religious Education group often with only one child in a grade level. This means that the child may end up in a group with older children that have more advanced understanding of religious concepts or that child may have be in a class alone and will miss out on important interactions with other children on his/her level. Again, an opportunity emerges. If we are able to use technology to hold classes virtually, maybe we will be able to forge a relationship with another church's religious ed. program that will expand the number of children and provide them with a richer experience.

Technology may provide our youth as well with highly engaging and interactive programs that they can enjoy within and outside of class. The challenge here is not to lose the hallmark of our program, which is that our youth form important connections with people within their Church community and that they have opportunities to participate in Church ministries. Right now, our challenge is to make the connections with families that have not all returned to Church. We hope to be able to meet with parents some time in October to determine how we might best meet religious education needs. Please watch the bulletin for a meeting notice. We hope to see you soon! - Myrtle Fontenette and Harry Pierre-Philippe, Religious Education Coordinators

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

St. Joseph's House of Hospitality



A special thank you to those who serve in all ministries!

The Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's (ICSB) Community has been volunteering to supply the food and serve our neighbors who come to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality for over 20 years. The recent pandemic has not changed our commitment to St. Joseph's, and we are pleased to say that we have continued our ministry there.

The major change is that we have switched to take-out meals. The menu is the same with meatloaf, potatoes, corn and now juice boxes. The volunteers have been great in donating bags, styrofoam containers and juice boxes for the take-out meals.

We have reduced the number of on-site volunteers needed to serve the take-out meal. ICSB people who cook the food just drive up, and someone comes out to pick up the food from their car. There is an assembly line set-up in the kitchen to fill the food containers and bag the meals. A table is placed in front of the South Ave. door, and it is opened at 11:30 am. Folks line up (6ft apart) and pick up a to-go meal. Harry (St. Joe's staff) keeps people 6ft apart and an ICSB volunteer hands out the meals. All volunteers wear face masks and gloves. Typically, there are between 60-70 meals served. Our volunteers (Don Toyer, Joanie and Peter Fraver, Tim Sullivan, Vincent Stroud, Bill Castle, George Fontenette and Lee Wingo) have been great, and we thank them for their service. We also thank those other volunteers who cook- we couldn't do it without you!

Our day at St. Joseph's is the fourth Saturday of every month with the meat and potatoes for preparation being distributed the Sunday before the 4th Saturday. Please contact either Vince Stroud (vdstroud0104@yahoo.com) or Don Toyer (dtoyer@rochester.rr.com) if you wish to volunteer.